

HIS BUSINESS IS TROUBLE AND KNOWING WHERE IT IS

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## ONCE A DALLASITE

# His Business Is Trouble And Knowing Where It Is

Staff Special  
WASHINGTON — Air police at  
nearby Bolling Field have long

since ceased running to offer help the earmarks of a telephone ex-

when they see a four-star general

dashing pell mell up the sidewalk.  
After many offers of assistance,  
they learned it was Gen. C. P.  
Cabell taking his daily pre-break-

fast exercise.  
"I have to get exercise some  
way," Gen. Cabell explained. "I  
stay chained to that desk too  
much."

The morning walk—or run—and  
an occasional nine holes of golf  
on Sunday are about the only  
recreation that time provides for  
the one-time Dallasite who holds  
the highly sensitive post of assist-

ant director of the Central Intel-  
ligence Agency, the nation's top  
cloak-and-dagger operation.  
Gen. Cabell, whose grandfather  
and father were both mayors of  
Dallas, doesn't get to visit his  
home town often. But there are  
few countries in the world he  
hasn't visited. And whether in  
Dallas, Formosa, Laos or on that  
rare visit to the golf course, Gen.  
Cabell is constantly in touch with  
his office.

"When I play golf I carry a  
pocket radio so that I can be  
paged," he said. "I can never be  
out of touch with my office."

Gen. Cabell's home itself has all

the earmarks of a telephone ex-  
change.  
"I have to have enough tele-  
phone lines in there so that there  
is always one not busy," he said.

This is no small chore with a  
teen-age daughter in the house.

A career Air Force officer with  
long experience in intelligence  
work, Gen. Cabell continues un-  
der President John F. Kennedy  
in the post to which he was named  
in 1953 by President Eisenhower.

It makes no difference here  
whether a Democrat or a Repub-  
lican sits in the White House, and  
I think President Kennedy proved  
that by asking Director Allen Dul-  
les to remain at his job," Gen.  
Cabell said. The general, of  
course, remains as well.

As one of two men in the na-  
tion (the other is Dulles) who  
have access to all the nation's in-  
telligence secrets, Gen. Cabell re-  
fuses to let the fact prey on his  
mind.

"You simply can't have time to  
worry about your responsibility,"  
he said.

As awesome as his task is, Gen.  
Cabell has sympathy for those  
who must make decisions based  
on CIA work.

"We are not policy-makers," he  
explained. "Our job is to analyze  
the several courses of action  
available in light of the informa-  
tion at hand. Sometimes the  
weight of evidence will point to  
some specific course overwhelm-  
ingly. But this is rare."

The policy-makers have the  
rough decision. Many times I  
have submitted a report to the  
President and been glad I did not  
have to make the ultimate deci-  
sion."

Gen. Cabell's office, down the  
hall from Dulles in the rigidly  
guarded CIA headquarters, has its  
walls adorned with maps. None,  
however, discloses any informa-  
tion. A special map of Africa has  
been rigged to help the staff keep  
up with the changing face of that  
continent.

"The Congo is a hot spot now,"  
Gen. Cabell explained. "Laos is  
on the front burner and so is  
Cuba. Tomorrow it may be some  
other place. We find ourselves  
playing with fire everywhere."

In his rare talks with newsmen,  
Gen. Cabell guards his words  
carefully. When he makes a pub-  
lic speech, he talks from a text  
—which he follows religiously.

"I can't afford to do otherwise,"  
he said. "No one here can afford  
to run the risk of spilling some-  
thing inadvertently. To give away  
a piece of information might be  
to give away the method by which  
it was obtained or give away the  
source. It could get somebody  
killed."

Gen. Cabell doesn't even dis-  
cuss his work with Mrs. Cabell.  
"It's simply a case of not be-  
ing able to afford to indulge in  
shop talk," he said.

The general, who was chief of  
staff to the Joint Chiefs of Staff  
before assuming his present job  
in 1953, still makes annual trips  
overseas, to check on trouble  
spots. While in the U.S., he is in  
his office from 8:30 every morn-  
ing until about 6:30 in the eve-  
ning. This usually holds true for  
Saturdays. Sundays he is either  
at his office or at home with a  
brief case full of reports to digest.

It's a long way from his early  
days in Dallas.

"You have to love this kind of  
work or get out," he said with a  
smile.

Gen. Cabell is not close to get-  
ting out. He serves at the pleas-  
ure of the President and the Pres-  
ident has evidenced no displeas-  
ure.

And the general has no thought  
of retiring.